

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A cutting head for a brush cutter or edge trimmer, the cutting head comprising a plurality of string outlets for a plurality of cutting strings, ~~characterized~~ wherein:

~~in that~~ the axes of the cutting string outlets are distributed in ~~at least two~~ a plurality of mutually spaced planes (Pac, Pcb),

~~mutually spaced by adjacent planes are spaced from each other by~~ a distance (H2) that is greater than or equal to approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string,

~~in that in~~ each plane the respective string outlets are at the same level, and

~~in that in~~ all planes the direction of rotation of the head is the same.

2. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in wherein~~ that the at least two adjacent planes (Pac, Pcb) are mutually spaced by a distance (H2) that is between approximately 1.8 times ~~the height (H1) of each string~~ and approximately 5 times the height (H1) of each string.

3. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in wherein~~ that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings exiting in a first plane (Pac) are alternated with the strings exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first.

4. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 3, ~~characterized in wherein~~ that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings exit the head in a regularly distributed manner.

5. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two strings are provided exiting in a first plane (Pac) in diametrically opposed regions, and two strings are provided exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first, in diametrically

opposed regions, ~~also, and in that~~ the string outlets are being distributed approximately every 90° in the peripheral direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each string has a ridge, and ~~in that~~ wherein the head comprises means for maintaining each string in an orientation such that ~~the~~ a cutting ridge of the string is in a position to lead the attack on plants.

7. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each string has a substantially square section and is oriented with two opposite ridges situated substantially in the plane (Pac[;], Pcb) containing the axis of the corresponding string outlet.

8. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the head is implemented by assembling parts of general disc shape defining string semi-channels opposite one another and suitable for together forming string channels concealed in the head.

9. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the spacing (H2) between the adjacent planes (Pac, Pcb) of the string outlets is defined by the thickness of an intermediate part comprising on one face semi-channels for the strings of an upper plane and on an opposite face semi-channels for the strings of a lower plane.

10–12. (Canceled)